



**Division of Insurance**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SHIP Celebrates 20 Years Serving Coloradans**

**Denver** – Every day in Colorado, an estimated 150 Coloradans turn 65. For many, that can mean retirement, checking into Social Security, and signing up for Medicare.

And who can help consumers navigate Medicare? The Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), which this month celebrates 20 years of helping Coloradans with Medicare.

To celebrate the Colorado SHIP 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, Governor John Hickenlooper declared September 26 to October 2 “Colorado SHIP Week” and [issued a proclamation](#) honoring the program and its staff and volunteers. The SHIP program also is planning a 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, to be held on Wednesday, October 10 at 10 a.m. at the Department of Regulatory Agencies, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1250, Denver.

SHIP provides free, unbiased, individualized information and counseling on Medicare and related insurances to seniors and the disabled. In the last eight years, SHIP has assisted more than 110,000 Colorado consumers, family members and community agency representatives.

There are 18 SHIP locations across the state, including local and county governments, area agencies on aging, and retired senior volunteer programs. The SHIP program is funded by grants from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

“Medicare has changed dramatically in the last 20 years, but SHIP counselors have been there to help Coloradans navigate each new set of changes to the system,” said Alice Lerley, Colorado SHIP director. “If you’re looking for assistance with Medicare, call us at 1-888-696-7213;” for locations and local contact information go to the [SHIP website](#).



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*The [Colorado Division of Insurance](#) regulates the insurance industry and assists consumers and other stakeholders with insurance issues.*

***[DORA](#)** is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado.  
Consumer protection is our mission.*